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DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ARP, NEA/IR, AND DRL/MLGA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/12/2018

TAGS: PHUM PREL MU

SUBJECT: UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS: OMAN

REF: STATE 118150

Classified By: Ambassador Gary A. Grappo

(C) Post delivered relevant reftel demarche points on November 9 via diplomatic note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). On November 10, the Ambassador spoke with Sayyid Badr al-Busaidi, MFA Secretary General, on the subject and asked that Oman consider either abstaining or absenting itself if it could not vote against the no-action motions or in favor of the resolutions. Sayyid Badr replied that Oman agreed with U.S. objectives regarding both Iran and Burma, but forthrightly stated that the Omani government could not support our request for either country or in the case of the DPRK. Accordingly, Oman plans to continue its past approach towards country-specific human rights resolutions and vote "yes" on the Iran and Burma no-action motions and "no" on the DPRK resolution. Sayyid Badr said that he would convey U.S. views on this matter to Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs Yusef bin Alawi, currently in New York for the UN Interfaith Conference, but commented that it was unlikely that bin Alawi would agree to change Oman's votes. **GRAPPO**